

of subjects is covered, the absence of chapters on the pathogenesis and treatment of dehydration and on the electrolyte disturbances in surgical patients limits its over-all value. Despite this shortcoming and the unevenness in style and depth of treatment of the individual topics (inevitable in multi-authored texts), this is an important contribution to teaching in this area. The authors are all respected authorities in their field, the documentation is fairly complete, and considerable effort has been made to relate the physiological findings to the most prominent problems faced by clinicians. Without doubt, this text will be used widely, and for the most part successfully, by practicing physicians as well as by medical students for the next two or three years at least. All texts on electrolyte disorders have a short half-life, owing to the high rate of publication of new research findings. It is to be hoped that the authors will expand and periodically modernize this work, since it is of considerable value for teaching at the pre-doctoral as well as the post-doctoral level.

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MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY—Matthew J. Lynch, M.D. (N.U.I.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.C.A.P., Pathologist, The General Hospital, The Sudbury Memorial Hospital, The Sudbury-Algonia Sanatorium, Sudbury, Ontario; Consultant Pathologist to the International Nickel Company of Canada; Regional Pathologist for District of Sudbury, Ontario, Department of Justice; Stanley S. Raphael, M.B., B.S., (Lond.), Pathologist, The Sudbury Memorial Hospital, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada; Leslie D. Mellor, L.C.S.L.T., F.I.M.L.T., Member, Canadian Society for Clinical Chemistry, Chief Technologist, and Specialist Technologist in Biochemistry, The General Hospital, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada; Peter D. Spare, F.I.M.L.T., Member, Canadian Society for Clinical Chemistry, Chief Technologist, and Specialist Technologist in Biochemistry, Sudbury Memorial Hospital; Peter Hills, L.C.S.L.T., F.R.M.S., Senior Technologist, and Specialist Technologist in Bacteriology and Histology, The General Hospital, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada; and Martin J. H. Inwood, L.C.S.L.T., F.I.M.L.T., Senior Technologist, and Specialist Technologist in Hematology and Blood Bank, The General Hospital, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada; Member, American Association of Blood Banks. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa., 1963. 735 pages, \$12.00.

The authors of this book indicate in the preface that their aim has been to give workers in their field a book that is up to date and covers the vast bulk of investigative demands encountered in the average general hospital, yet one which outlines not only the "how" but also the "why" of laboratory work. In the opinion of this reviewer, they have accomplished this assignment exceedingly well. The book is divided into four sections. Section One begins with a concise but adequate review of the basic principles of laboratory work and of general and analytical chemistry. There follow chapters on tests of kidney function including routine urinalyses as well as special tests performed for chemical constituents which may appear in the urine. The various chemical tests applicable to studies of the gastrointestinal tract, liver and biliary systems are next described. This section is concluded with descriptions of a number of important biochemical tests commonly used in diagnosis, as well as the special studies applicable to investigation of endocrine functions.

Section Two is devoted to hematology including not only morphological studies but also the parasites which may be detected in the blood, blood coagulation and disorders of hemostasis, blood grouping, and blood bank methods. Section Three covers the field of diagnostic microbiology, with limited attention to serological tests, antibiotic sensitivity procedures, parasitology and mycology. The final Section, Four, deals with histologic techniques including preparation of tissues, staining for special purposes, and cytologic diagnosis.

Each chapter is supplied with a useful and up to date list of references for further reading. This preserves the quick reference feature of a laboratory text to be consulted for a concise treatment of the problem at hand. The book is printed in double column format by an offset process which is most satisfactory and because of the somewhat larger than usual type, easily read. Because of its good coverage of the field of laboratory investigation and its content of modern and reliable procedures, this book is recommended as a reference source for any hospital laboratory.

HAROLD A. HARPER, Ph.D.

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COUNSELING IN MEDICAL GENETICS—Second Edition—Sheldon C. Reed, Ph.D., Director, Dight Institute for Human Genetics, The University of Minnesota. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa., 1963. 278 pages, \$5.50.

This book of modest size, now in its second edition, is designed to help the obstetrician, the pediatrician, the internist, and above all the family physician meet problems of family planning that may be placed before him. For this, he should have some familiarity with genetics, a field in which great advances have been made in the last few years, particularly in chromosome analysis, and the recognition of the chemical basis of several inborn errors of metabolism. The number of conditions in which heredity plays a major part is surprisingly large—the author lists over 300. Patients frequently seek counsel from the physician as to the chances of some anomaly or other condition which may have occurred in an ancestor or collateral relative appearing in their future offspring, and Reed approaches such problems in an orderly way, grouping them in some 28 categories, and giving specific examples of advice given. There is also an interesting discussion of disputed paternity.

The author, Sheldon C. Reed, is Director of the Dight Institute for Human Genetics of the University of Minnesota. The need for such organizations is well shown by the fact that the eight years since the first edition was published the number of such American institutes for genetic counseling has increased from 13 to 28.

The book is well written, with clear expositions of the basic material. It should be extremely useful to the physician who is not expert in the field but who wishes at least to guide his patients in the preliminary steps toward solving their problems.

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PREVENTIVE PEDIATRICS—Child Health and Development—Paul A. Harper, Professor of Maternal and Child Health, The Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, and Associate Professor of Pediatrics, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland. Appleton-Century-Crofts (Division of Meredith Publishing Company), 34 West 33rd Street, New York 1, N. Y., 1962. 798 pages, \$14.95.

Dr. Harper has written a comprehensive textbook which might equally well bear the title "Growth, Development and Public Health Care of Children." The reviewer knows of no other text which, in one volume, covers as thoroughly and authoritatively the fields of normal growth and development, nutritional requirements, well baby and well child care, mental retardation and other handicaps and public programs for the well and handicapped child. The first chapter of 76 pages entitled "Predictable Problems of Growth and Behavior" deals almost entirely with common behavior problems and is excellent.

Throughout the book there are comprehensive and up-to-date references. The book is recommended for use by pediatricians, public health personnel and all others engaged in health services for children.

WILLIAM C. DEAMER, M.D.